



*Office of the United States Attorney
District of Arizona*

FOR IMMEDIATE RELEASE
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CHILD SMUGGLER OF 1-YEAR-OLD GIRL SENTENCED TO 15 MONTHS IN FEDERAL PRISON

TUCSON, Ariz. – Rosario Lizeth Tarin-Rojas, 18, of Nogales, Sonora, Mexico, was sentenced yesterday to 15 months in prison by U.S. District Court Judge Raner Collins. Tarin-Rojas pleaded guilty on June 10, 2008, to Conspiracy to Transport an Illegal Alien for Profit after she attempted to smuggle a toddler into the United States.

Tarin-Rojas attempted to enter the U.S. on April 9, 2008, at the Nogales, Ariz. Port of Entry with a 1-year-old girl whom she claimed was her niece. Tarin-Rojas told the U.S. Customs and Border Protection official that she and the child were going shopping in Nogales, Ariz. She presented a laser visa for the child, which belonged to someone else. She later stated that she did not know the child and that she was hired by a woman to take the child to a store in Nogales, Ariz., where another woman would take the child from her. She was to be paid \$200.

The smuggled child was turned over to the custody of the Mexican Consulate who then turned her over to the Mexican Department of Family Services (the Mexican equivalent of U.S. Child Protective Services) to be reunited with her family.

The investigation in this case was conducted by U.S. Customs and Border Protection. The prosecution was handled by Raquel Arellano, Assistant U.S. Attorney, District of Arizona, Tucson.

CASE NUMBER: CR-08-0593-TUC-RCC
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